



## **2002 National Clean Water Act Recognition Awards Ceremony**



**2<sup>nd</sup> Place, O&M, Large Advanced Plant: Lancaster Area Sewer Authority, Susquehanna  
Water Pollution Control Plant, Lancaster, Pennsylvania - Chlorine Contact Tank.**

**United States  
Environmental Protection Agency**

**U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
2002 National Clean Water Act  
Recognition Awards  
Ceremony**

Water Environment Federation Technical Exposition & Conference  
Chicago, Illinois  
Monday, September 30, 2002

**US EPA National Awards Program Managers**

**Maria Campbell, Operations and Maintenance Awards  
John Walker, Biosolids Management Awards  
Patricia Campbell, Pretreatment Awards  
Wendy Bell, Storm Water Management Awards  
Tim Dwyer, Combined Sewer Overflow Control Awards**

## **The Program**

Welcome

Joe Stowe Jr.  
Past-President  
Water Environment Federation

Opening Remarks  
and  
Presentation of Awards

Benjamin Grumbles, Deputy Assistant  
Administrator for Water  
U.S. EPA

Announcement of Award Recipients

James A. Hanlon, Director  
Office of Wastewater Management  
U.S. EPA

### **National Award Recipients**

**Operations and Maintenance Awards**  
**Biosolids Management Awards**  
**Pretreatment Program Awards**  
**Storm Water Management Awards**  
**Combined Sewer Overflow Program Awards**

Following the ceremony, compliments of WEF, refreshments will be served in Room S406A.

## **National Clean Water Act Recognition**

### **Awards Programs**

#### **History**

In 1985, by authority of Section 501(e) of the Clean Water Act, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) initiated an annual National Operations and Maintenance (O&M) Excellence Awards Program to recognize outstanding O&M at publicly owned wastewater treatment facilities. The first national awards were presented in 1986. The O&M Awards Program was an immediate success and was widely acclaimed as a way for EPA to honor plant personnel and local officials for their commitment to clean water.

Due to that success, the awards program was expanded in 1988 to include Sludge Awards, now referred to as Biosolids Exemplary Management Awards to recognize outstanding biosolids operating projects, technology development, and research, and later public acceptance efforts. In 1989, the Pretreatment Excellence Awards Program was added to recognize municipal implementation and enforcement of local pretreatment programs. In 1990, a new awards category for Most Improved Plant was added to the O&M awards program to recognize the efforts of the plant operator, the town, and the operator trainer who helped return the plant to compliance under a technical assistance program designed to help small communities. In 1991, the Combined Sewer Overflow Control Awards and the Storm Water Management Awards programs were added to recognize outstanding wastewater management programs and projects. In 2002, EPA issued a rule, 40 CFR Part 105, establishing a framework to implement these awards recognition programs as the Clean Water Act Recognition Awards (formerly the National Wastewater Management Excellence Awards).

To be eligible for a CWA Recognition award, a facility, project or pollution abatement program must:

- be in total compliance with all applicable water quality requirements, and otherwise have a satisfactory record with respect to environmental quality; and,
- have written documentation as evidence of an outstanding technological achievement or an innovative process, method or device demonstrated in the preceding year, which resulted in environmental benefits, cost savings and/or public acceptance.
- be recommended by the State and/or EPA region.

#### **The Awards Process**

EPA headquarters issues annual guidance memoranda to administer each year's awards process and to request nominations for the awards programs. Forms to apply for the five awards program categories are available at the State level, and can be obtained through the Internet at [www.epa.gov/own](http://www.epa.gov/own). Candidates may be nominated by EPA Regions, State water pollution control agencies, municipalities, consultants, wastewater treatment facilities or other interested parties in their State. After completing compliance screenings, the EPA Regional Offices use selection panels to choose the facilities, projects or programs which may receive annual Regional awards. These Regional winners then become eligible for national awards. Participation may not be in all states or EPA regions. Many State and Regional awards

presentation ceremonies are coordinated with local associations of WEF.

Awards nominations received from EPA Regional Offices undergo additional screenings and are evaluated by a selection panel of expert judges in the wastewater treatment industry. Award winners are invited to attend the presentation ceremony where they may receive flags, plaques and certificates. The awards recognize the staff of these facilities and provide national recognition for their contributions to their community and to the nation's goal of clean water.

Each year since the program's initiation, national awards have been presented annually at the Water Environment Federation's Technical Exposition & Conference (WEFTEC). There are more than 16,000 publicly owned and 60,000 industrially owned wastewater treatment plants in the United States, as well as facilities subject to National Pollutant Discharge and Elimination System (NPDES) general permit coverage. The National Clean Water Act Recognition Awards Program recognizes select wastewater treatment plants, programs or projects which have achieved outstanding compliance results and have demonstrated an exceptional technological achievement, method, or device in their waste treatment and pollution abatement programs. Award winners' representatives are invited to attend this awards presentation ceremony. WEF has provided generous support for the awards program by co-hosting the awards ceremony and by providing excellent coverage in its publications. EPA is grateful to WEF for its continued help in making this awards program a success.

## **National Clean Water Act Recognition Awards Program**

### **Operations and Maintenance Excellence Awards**

#### **The Program**

This is the seventeenth year for the EPA's National Operations and Maintenance (O&M) Excellence Awards program that recognizes plant personnel and local officials for innovative and outstanding O&M activities at publicly owned wastewater treatment facilities.

#### **The Award Categories**

Winners are recognized in nine award categories: small, medium and large secondary treatment plants; small, medium and large advanced treatment plants; small and large non-discharging plants; and most improved plant. For the purpose of the awards program, small is defined as a design flow capacity of less than one million gallons per day (mgd), medium is one to 10 mgd, and large is greater than 10 mgd, except in the non-discharging plant category where large is greater than one mgd.

The "Most Improved Plant" category, a favorite of the O&M program, recognizes extraordinary efforts by treatment plant personnel, local officials, and the onsite operator trainer to return a facility to compliance under a technical assistance program authorized by Section 104(g)(1) of the Clean Water Act. There are no awards in this category this year.

#### **The Criteria**

Treatment facilities are judged based on their achievements within the following areas:

,	Automation	,	Laboratory Management
,	Best Management Practices	,	Most Improved Plant
,	Biosolids Handling and Disposal	,	Non-dischargers
,	Collection System Controls	,	Personnel Training Programs
,	Collection System Maintenance Management	,	Pollution Control and Field Monitoring
,	Compliance	,	Public Education
,	Equipment Maintenance Management	,	Safety Education
,	Financial Management	,	Septage Management
,	Innovative O&M Practices	,	Toxic Waste Controls

## **2002 National Operations and Maintenance Excellence Awards Winners by Category**

### ***Small Advanced Plant***

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place: South Berwick Sewer District  
South Berwick, Maine
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Town of Gorham Wastewater Treatment Plant  
Gorham, New York

### ***Medium Advanced Plant***

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place: City of Louisville Wastewater Treatment Plant  
Louisville, Colorado
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Dale Mabry Advanced Wastewater Treatment Plant  
Tampa, Florida

### ***Large Advanced Plant***

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place: City of Dallas (Southside) Wastewater Treatment Plant  
Dallas, Texas
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Lancaster Area Sewer Authority  
Susquehanna Water Pollution Control Facility  
Lancaster, Pennsylvania

### ***Small Secondary Plant***

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place: Village of Amherst Wastewater Treatment Facility  
Amherst, Wisconsin
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: City of Lineville Sanitary Sewage Treatment Plant  
Lineville, Iowa

### ***Medium Secondary Plant***

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place: City of Hamilton Wastewater Treatment Plant  
Hamilton, Montana
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Escatawpa Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant  
Moss Point, Mississippi

### ***Large Secondary Plant***

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Passaic Valley Sewerage Commissioners  
Newark, New Jersey

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Evansville Eastside Treatment Facility  
Evansville, Indiana

### ***Large Non-Discharging***

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Selma-Kingsburg-Fowler County Sanitation District  
Kingsburg, California

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: City of Sturgis Wastewater Treatment Facility  
Sturgis, South Dakota

## **National Clean Water Act Recognition Awards Program**

### **Biosolids Exemplary Management Awards**

#### **The Program**

This is the fifteenth year of the EPA's National Biosolids Exemplary Management Awards program that recognizes outstanding operational projects, research studies, technological advances, and public acceptance efforts for promoting beneficial uses of municipal wastewater biosolids. EPA presents national awards and may present regional awards.

Innovative and widely applicable biosolids techniques are vital to the nation's efforts to protect and improve our land and water resources. These awards focus attention on the critical need to develop and implement management practices that use wastewater biosolids beneficially and that are environmentally safe, economical, and acceptable to the public. The nomination process is very productive, even if the nominee is not selected as a winner, due to the recognition and transfer of information that occurs.

For years, many municipalities, individuals and groups have worked to make significant contributions to the study and practice of environmentally safe use and disposal of municipal biosolids. This awards program recognizes their professional efforts. We congratulate this year's award winners, and encourage nominations of commendable candidates for next year's regional and national Exemplary Biosolids Management award programs.

#### **The Award Categories and Criteria**

The Biosolids Exemplary Management award candidates are evaluated using the following criteria:

##### **For Operating Projects**

**Two Categories: 1) Less Than or Equal to 5 dry tons/per day; 2) Greater than 5 dry tons/per day**

- , Compliance with Applicable Federal, State and local regulations
- , Consistent, cost-effective operation
- , public acceptance of beneficial uses of biosolids.
- , Significant recycling/reuse of natural resources (e.g., nutrients, organic matter and energy)
- , Sustained (several years), full scale, proven operation

This year, there is a tie for second place in the large operating projects category.

### **For Technology Development Activities**

- , Operationally proven
- , Resolved previous biosolids management or utilization problems
- , Sustained excellence in advancing our knowledge of technology (e.g., improved design criteria or operational practice)
- , Technology has potential for use in many areas of the country

### **For Research Activities**

- , Greater public acceptability of biosolids beneficial use
- , Greatly improves the understanding of the environmental effects of beneficial use of biosolids
- , Key information generated for development of improved biosolids regulations and guidance
- , Substantial contribution toward the development of improved design and operation

### **For Public Acceptance Efforts**

Two Categories:        1) **Municipal;** and, 2) **All Others**

- , Characterized by dedicated successful individual and team efforts
- , Demonstrated increase in public acceptance
- , Demonstrated willingness to share information and approaches for gaining public acceptance
- , Proactive approach for successfully working with such entities as the press and cultivating and gaining allies to explain the benefits and diffuse alarmist stories that might arise
- , Program with excellent information transfer and training efforts that have made a positive difference locally

## **2002 National Biosolids Exemplary Management Awards Winners by Category**

### **Operating Projects Large**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place: Merrimack, Wastewater Treatment Facility  
Merrimack, New Hampshire
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Places: Roanoke Regional Water Pollution Control Plant  
Roanoke, Virginia, and  
  
City of Largo, Wastewater Reclamation Facility  
Clearwater, Florida

### **Operating Projects Small**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place: City of Hood River Wastewater Treatment Plant  
Hood River, Oregon
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Lower Colorado River Authority  
Burnet, Texas

**Honorable Mention:** City of Port Huron Wastewater Treatment Plant  
Port Huron, Michigan

### **Public Acceptance:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place: WNET, PBS Affiliate Television Station  
New York, NY. and US EPA Region III, Water Protection Division  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

## **National Clean Water Act Recognition Awards**

### **Outstanding Pretreatment Program Awards**

#### **The Program**

This is the fourteenth year of the EPA's Outstanding Pretreatment Program Awards. The awards recognize publicly owned treatment works (POTWs) with exemplary local pretreatment programs that reduce the risk of pass-through of toxic pollutants and the operational interferences caused by toxic dischargers. Through their pretreatment efforts with the local industry, POTWs achieve additional benefits such as improved biosolids quality and reduced risks to treatment plant worker health and safety.

The Outstanding Pretreatment Program Awards recognize POTWs for outstanding efforts in the control of industrial discharges and to heighten overall public awareness of and support for these local wastewater treatment-related programs.

#### **The Award Criteria**

POTWs are judged on their performance in the following areas:

- , Enforcement
- , Environmental Achievements
- , Industrial User Monitoring
- , Industrial User Permitting
- , Innovations in Program Implementation
- , Legal Authority
- , Local Limits
- , Public Outreach

#### **The Award Categories**

Awards are given in three categories based on the number of Significant Industrial Users (SIUs): 0 - 25 SIUs; 26 - 100 SIUs; and greater than 100 SIUs.

## **2002 National Outstanding Pretreatment Program Awards Winners by Category**

### ***100 and greater SIUs:***

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Subregional Operating Group (SROG)  
Glendale, Mesa, Phoenix, Scottsdale and  
Tempe, Arizona

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: San Antonio Water System  
San Antonio, Texas

### ***26 - 100 SIUs:***

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Chesterfield County Utilities Department  
Chesterfield, Virginia

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Palo Alto Regional Water Quality Control Plant  
Palo Alto, California

### ***0 - 25 SIUs:***

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Texarkana Water Utilities  
Texarkana, Texas

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: City of Bangor Wastewater Treatment Plant  
Bangor, Maine

## **National Clean Water Act Recognition Awards Program**

### **Outstanding Storm Water Management Program Awards**

#### **The Program**

The Storm Water Management Program Awards recognize municipalities and industries that are demonstrating their commitment to protect and improve the quality of the nation's waters by implementing outstanding, innovative and cost-effective Storm Water control programs and projects. This awards program heightens overall public awareness of storm water measures and encourages public support of programs aimed at protecting the public's health and safety and the nation's water quality.

#### **The Award Categories**

Awards are given in two categories: Municipal Storm Water control program and project; and Industrial Storm Water control program or project. There is no national winner in the industrial category.

The 2002 national winners are in the municipal category as follows:

1<sup>st</sup> Place:        Greater Battle Creek Area Watershed Management Project  
                     Battle Creek, Springfield and Calhoun County, Michigan

2<sup>nd</sup> Place:        Jefferson Parish Department of Environmental Affairs  
                     Jefferson, Louisiana

## **National Clean Water Act Recognition Awards Program**

### **Combined Sewer Overflow Control Program Awards**

#### **The Program**

This is the twelfth year for EPA's Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) Control Awards Program. The awards recognize municipalities which demonstrate their commitment to protect and improve the quality of the nation's waters by implementing outstanding, innovative and cost-effective CSO programs and projects. The CSO Control Awards program heightens overall public awareness of CSO measures and encourages public support of programs aimed at protecting public health and safety and the nation's water quality.

This year there are two first place winners for the National CSO Awards Program as follows:

Lincoln Sanitary District  
Lincoln, Maine

Sanitary District of Michigan City  
Michigan City, Indiana

For more information on the Clean Water Act Recognition Awards program visit [www.epa.gov.own](http://www.epa.gov.own), and contact your State water pollution control agency, the U.S. EPA offices or WEF at the following locations:

**Region 1**

Office of Ecosystem Protection  
JFK Federal Building, One Congress Street  
Boston, MA 02114-2023  
(617) 918-1764

**Region 2**

Division of Environmental Planning and Protection  
290 Broadway  
New York, New York 10007-1866  
(212) 637-3836

**Region 3**

Water Protection Division  
1650 Arch Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19103-2029  
(215) 814-5788

**Region 4**

Water Management Division  
61 Forsyth Street  
Atlanta, GA 30303-3104  
(404) 562-9280 Ext. 29248

**Region 5**

Water Division  
77 West Jackson Boulevard  
Chicago, Illinois 60604-3507  
(312) 353-5784

**Region 6**

Water Quality Protection Division  
Fountain Place, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor, Suite 1200  
1445 Ross Avenue  
Dallas, TX 75202-2733  
(214) 655-6525

**Region 7**

Water, Wetlands, & Pesticides Division  
901 N. 5<sup>th</sup> Street  
Kansas City, KS 66101  
(913) 551-7453

**Region 8**

Office of Partnerships and Regulatory Asst.  
999 18<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 500  
Denver, CO 80202-2466  
(303) 312-6280

**Region 9**

Water Division  
75 Hawthorne Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105  
(415) 744-1949

**Region 10**

Office of Water  
1200 Sixth Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98101  
(206) 553-8575

**Headquarters**

Office of Wastewater Management  
1200 Pennsylvania Ave, NW (4204M)  
Washington, DC 20460  
(202) 564-0628

**The Water Environment Federation (WEF)**

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Alexandria, VA 22314  
(703) 684-2400

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Office of Water (4204M)  
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